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BRITISH COLUMBIA

BC STATS

ServiceBC
Ministry of Labour & Citizens' Services

Data Services
(250) 387-0327
BC.Stats@gov.bc.ca
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Consumer Price Index ◆ June 2006 (revised)

Highlights

- BC's Consumer Price Index rose 2.2% from June 2005. The lowest year-over-year increase in the CPI among the provinces was Quebec at 2.1%. Alberta, with a 3.7% rise, continues to post the greatest increase. Nationally, prices rose 2.5% during the same period.

- On a month-to-month basis, BC's CPI remained the same, while Canada posted a loss (-0.2%). The only province to show a slight gain was Manitoba (0.1%).

- Among the metropolitan areas, Albertans continue to experience the highest inflation in the country, with Calgary far in the lead at 4.2% higher than June 2005. The next highest increases were in Edmonton and Charlottetown at 3.2%. Residents of Victoria and Montreal enjoyed the lowest increases at 1.9%, followed by Vancouver, Thunder Bay and Quebec City at 2.1%.

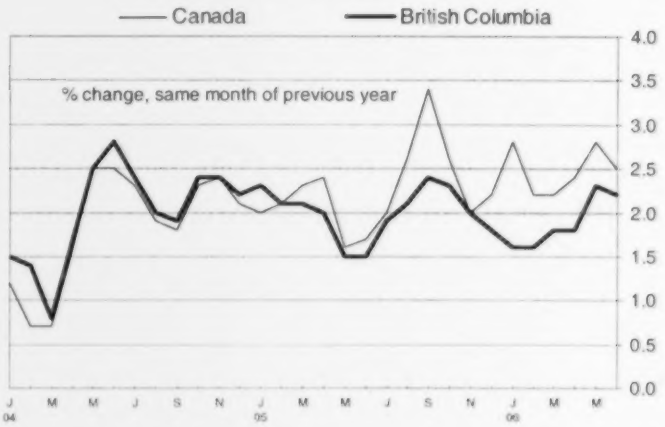
- Oil prices continue to be a major inflationary factor as BC residents paid more for gasoline (+18.0%) and fuel oil (+14.9) compared to a year ago. Other notable price increases were recorded for public transportation (+6.7%) and property taxes (6.3%). Offsetting these increases were lower costs for children's clothing (-12.5%), household furnishings (-2.2%) and fresh vegetables (-2.8%).

- BC's CPI, excluding food and energy, was 1.4% higher than in June 2005. The comparable figure for Canada was 1.5%.

Note: Statistics Canada will release the July Consumer Price Index on August 22, 2006.

1992=100	Index	% Change from	
	June 2006	May 2006	June 2005
Canada	130.4	-0.2	2.5
BC	128.1	0.0	2.2
Vancouver	128.5	-0.1	2.1
Victoria	128.0	-0.2	1.9
Core Canada[1]	128.4	-0.2	1.7

BC and Canada Inflation Trend



1992=100	Latest 12-Month Average Index (ending in June 2006)	Latest 12-Month Average % Change	2005 Annual Average % Change
Canada	128.9	2.5	2.2
BC	126.4	2.0	2.0
Vancouver	126.8	1.8	1.9
Victoria	126.7	2.1	2.2

[1]**The Core CPI for Canada:** Defined by the Bank of Canada as the All-items index excluding the eight most volatile components (fruit, vegetables, gasoline, fuel oil, natural gas, mortgage interest, inter-city transportation and tobacco products). Also excluded is the effect of changes in indirect taxes on the remaining components.